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Turner Cites 149 Drug-Test Projects

By John Jacobs

Washington Post Staff Writer

CIA Director Stansfield Turner yesterday testified that the CIA has conducted 149 projects involving drug testing, behavior modification and secret administration of mind-altering drugs at 80 American and Canadian universities, hospitals, research foundations and prisons.

Turner requested the hearing before a joint session of the Senate Intelligence Committee and a Senate Human Resources subcommittee to

testify about 8,000 pages of newly discovered CIA documents concerning Project MKULTRA, the agency's super-secret drug testing program.

Such tests have been stopped, Turner testified. He said he found it "totally abhorrent to me to think that human beings were being used as guinea pigs."

Turner's report went beyond anything the government has revealed before about the scope of the MKULTRA program, which was most active between 1953 and 1964, when it was

phased out. He said the 80 institutions at which the tests were performed included "44 colleges or universities, 15 research foundations or chemical or pharmaceutical companies and the like, 12 hospitals or clinics and three penal institutions."

But he did not make public the names of the institutions or the 183 nongovernment researchers who were involved in the projects, although the names were turned over to the sena-

tors on a classified basis. He said most researchers did not know their activities were supported by the CIA.

Of the 149 projects Turner listed, he said 17 "probably" did not involve human testing, 14 "definitely" used human volunteers, 19 "probably" used volunteers and perhaps unwitting subjects, and at least six used unwitting subjects. Other projects involved research in hypnosis, studies of human behavior, research in "drugs, toxins and biologicals in human tissue," studies of human behavior, and the effects of electroshock, "harassment techniques for offensive use," and gas-propelled sprays and aerosols.

"Let me emphasize that the MKULTRA events are 12 to 15 years in the past," Turner said. "I assure you that the CIA is in no way engaged in either witting or unwitting testing of drugs today."

Turner also described "additional details" on the previously reported operation of two CIA "safehouses," one in San Francisco and one in New York City, in which CIA agents conducted LSD experiments on people who did not know they were being given the hallucinogenic drug.

Staff aides to Sen. Edward M. Kennedy (D-Mass.), chairman of the health subcommittee of the Human Resources Committee, suspect that the CIA used the safehouses to bring in prostitutes to give the drugs to unsuspecting persons they picked up in bars.

The safehouse in San Francisco was directed by Morgan Hall, an agent who died two years ago. Kennedy read from a document in which Hall had described the project as "Operation Midnight Climax."

